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A New Species of *Menophra* MOORE from Pakistan (Lepidoptera, Geometridae)

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Abstract A new geometrid moth, *Menophra plantei*, is described from North Pakistan.

Key words: Geometridae; Ennominae; *Menophra*; *Ephemerophila*; new species; Pakistan.

Recently Southeast Asian species of the ennomine geometrid genus *Menophra* MOORE, [1887] (type-species: *Phalaena abruptaria* THUNBERG, 1792) were studied by SATO (1984, 1987 a, 1987 b, 1992, 1993) and INOUE (1990) and as a result many new species have been added to the fauna of Taiwan, Peninsular Malaysia, Sumatra, Java, North India, Nepal and the Philippines.

Hereunder I will describe a new species belonging to the subgenus *Ephemerophila* WARREN, 1894 (type-species: *Hemerophila humeraria* MOORE, 1868) from North Pakistan.

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Menophra (Ephemerophila) plantei sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–2)

Face ashy grey, blackish at dorsal half, crown ashy grey, patagium brownish grey with black tip.

Both wings pale brown, striated with dark grey; forewing darker at basal area inside antemedian line and both wings outside of postmedian line. Forewing with black antemedian line angled at subcostal area and more strongly so at near posterior angle of discocellulars, postmedian line strongly angled on vein M1, then running smoothly into hindmargin, weakly incurved at middle and slightly angled on vein 1A+2A, dark suffusion at termen between M1 and M3 very clear in female, vague in male. Hindwing with black postmedian line minutely dentate at veins, pale yellow subterminal fascia running nearer to termen than to postmedian line, clear at posterior half. Terminal line of both wings black, fringe pale brown, spotted with blackish or dark brown at the extension of veins, base of fringe pale yellow.

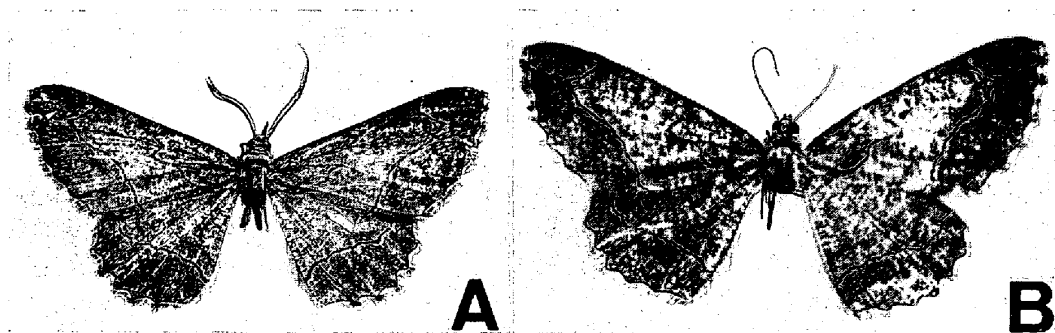


Fig. 1. *Menophra plantei* sp. nov. — A, Holotype, male; B, paratype, female.

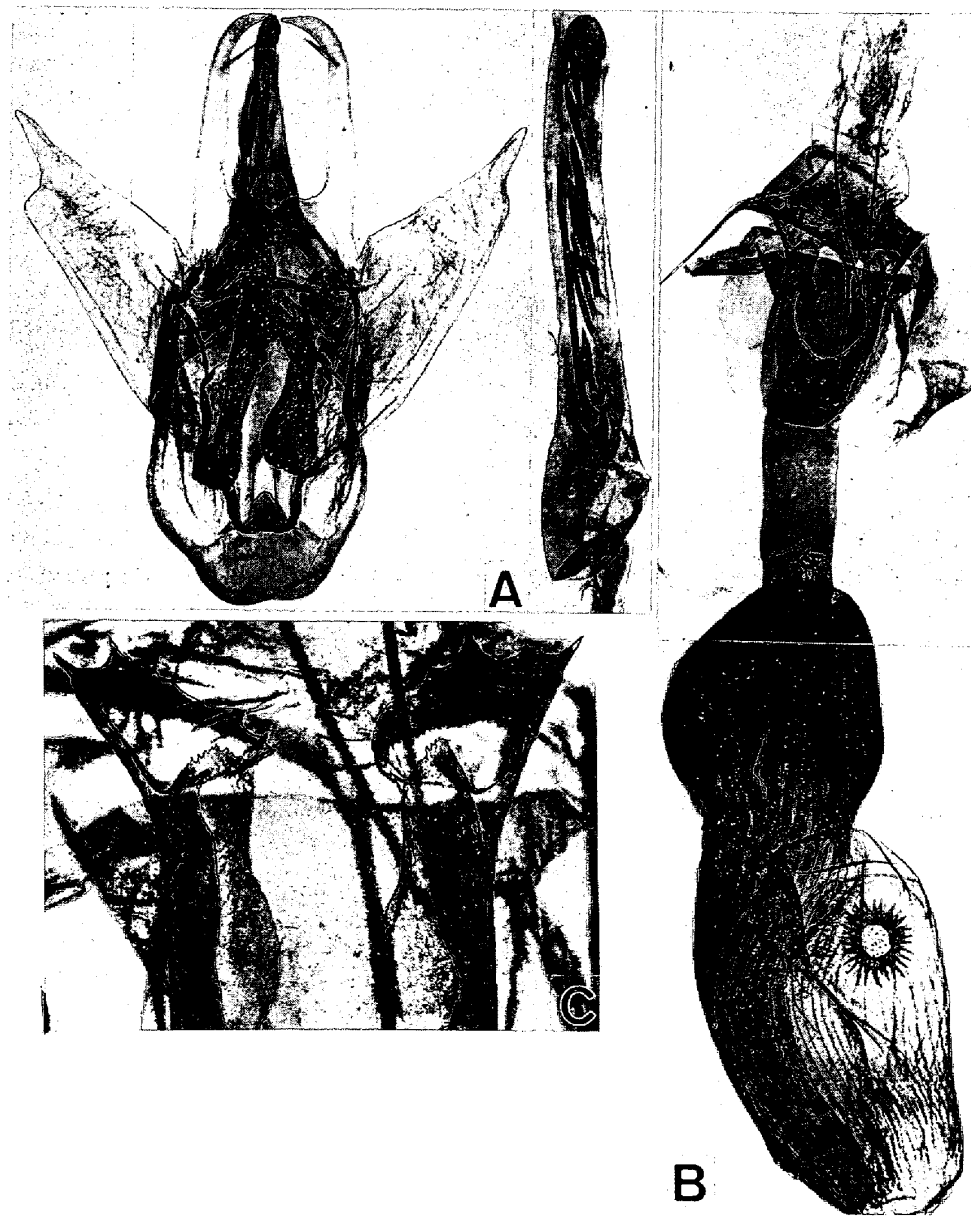


Fig. 2. *Menophra plantei* sp. nov. — A, Male genitalia (HI Slide 15100), B, female genitalia (HI Slide 15101); C, ditto, sterigma, greatly enlarged,

Under surface much paler, whitish grey, discocellular dot much larger and clearer than on above, postmedian line of forewing double, outer one strongly angled anteriorly as on above, inner one rounded or weakly angled there, forewing with pale yellow mark at apex.

Length of forewing: male 18 mm, female 19–20 mm.

Male genitalia (Fig. 2 A). Uncus longer than gnathos, rounded at tip, gnathos flat at tip, costal arm of valva strongly incurved at apical one-third, with two spines, valvula slender, suddenly narrowed at apical area, apex nearly pointed, ventral margin almost angled and excised, vesica armed with nearly fifteen horn-like processes, one of them more than half length of aedeagus.

Female genitalia (Fig. 2 B). Sterigma deeply hollowed, caudal tips serrate, ending in three or four spines, ductus bursae sclerotized, nearly equal length of sterigma, parallel sided, corpus bursae doubly elliptical, caudal lobe more strongly sclerotized and striated than cephalic one, stellate signum with elliptical central disc.

Type-series. Holotype, ♂, and paratypes, 2 ♀: Pakistan, Punjab, Murree Hills, Nathia Gali, 2,350 m, 23. vii. 1990 (F. AULORABARD & J. PLANTE), in coll. British Museum (Natural History), London.

Distribution. North Pakistan.

Notes. This new species is very similar to *Menophra* (*Ephemerophila*) *anaplagiata* SATO, 1984, from Taiwan, but is smaller and has the termen of forewing more oblique, postmedian lines clearer, discocellular dots smaller, spines of costal arm of valva longer, valvula much narrower at apical area, aedeagus longer, number of cornuti fewer, sterigma more deeply hollowed and ductus bursae longer. It is also similar to *M. (E.) mitsundoi* SATO, 1984, from Taiwan, but has the ground colour of wings much paler, spines of costal arm more slender, valvula much more elongate, aedeagus much longer, sterigma and ductus bursae much longer.

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